

Yeoor tribal girls may soon greet you in Arabic, German

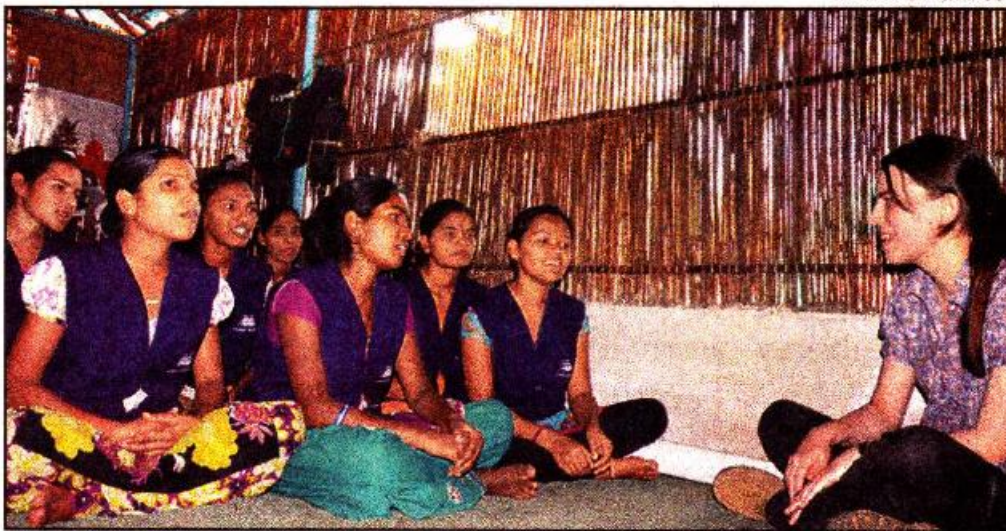
TNN | Mar 21, 2014, 12.39PM IST | Asha Mandpe

THANE: A group of 10 tribal girls are being trained in advanced computer skills and foreign languages such as German and Arabic at Anantashram in the hills of Yeoor.

What's even more interesting is that Barbara Binder, a language expert from Austria, has offered her voluntary services to teach German and Arabic to these girls. The girls are from Dahanu and Jawhar district. Their joy in learning these new skills is evident from their endearing smiles, glowing eyes and confident faces.

"These are candidates of Pratigya Apprenticeship for Community Transformation, a two-year residential programme where tribal youths are trained to become self-sufficient. After going back to their respective districts, these skills will enable them to teach others and spread knowledge in their community and, in the process, help them earn a living," said Apoorva Agwan, project head and inspiration behind the activity. The pilot batch was launched on January 26. "The girls are being trained in 2D and 3D graphic design, animation, data entry in languages such as Hindi, Marathi, English and Gujarati, digitization of ancient manuscripts in Sanskrit and Prakrit language, ERP software development and website development," said project manager and mentor Nancy D'Souza.

Kistu Fernandes



IN QUEST FROM THE WEST: Barbara Binder (right), a language expert from Austria, teaches German and Arabic to these girls